

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANJUL 00824 071103Z

21

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 /013 W
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R 071005Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3565
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS BANJUL 0824

FOR CU/AF GAMBIA DESK AF/W KILLION

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC GA
SUBJ: TRANSITION QUARTER IV NOMINEE: MELVILL LAMIN AUBER

REF: BANJUL 0823

1. EMBASSY HEREBY NOMINATES MELVILLE LAMIN AUBER, DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND TRADE, FOR 21 DAY IV GRANT TO COMMENCE WEEK BEGINNING AUG 22. AUBER WILL BE ON LEAVE FROM MID-AUG TO MID-SEPT, AND THUS COULD ACCEPT GRANT DURING THAT PERIOD. EMBASSY REALIZES TIMING IS TIGHT BUT WOULD APPRECIATE EFFORT TO PROGRAM ACCORDING AUBER'S LEAVE SCHEDULE.

2. AUBER WAS BORN IN BANJUL NOV 11, 1936, AND LIVES 6 WELLINGTON STREET, BANJUL. HE HAS BA FROM FOURAH BAY COLLEGE, SIERRA LEONE. HE HAS HELD SEVERAL PREVIOUS POSITIONS IN GAMBIA ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING HEAD OF CHANCERY, GAMBIA HI COM DAKAR, AND COMMISSIONER (EQUIVALENT TO GOVERNOR) WESTERN DIVISION. AUBER IS CHEVALIER DE L'ORDRE NATIONAL OF SENEGAL, AND SPEAKS FRENCH AS WELL AS EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

3. AUBER HAS BRIEFLY VISITED US TWICE ON GOTG BUSINESS, BUT HAS NOT TRAVELLED BEYOND WASHINGTON/NEW YORK. AUBER HAS ALSO VISITED TAIWAN, CPR, UK, GUYANA, AND A NUMBER OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HE IS MARRIED, AKU, AND CHRISTIAN.

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PAGE 02 BANJUL 00824 071103Z

4. MINISTRY WHICH AUBER SERVES HAS BROAD RESPONSIBILITIES IN AREAS COVERED BY TREASURY AND COMMERCE IN US SYSTEM. AUBER WOULD LIKE CONTACT WITH BOTH, INCLUDING VISIT TO COMMERCE FIELD OFFICE. HE WANTS TRAVEL TO WEST COAST--LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO, POSSIBLY ATLANTA IF THERE IS TIME. AUBER ALSO WISHES VISIT BOSTON (HARVARD-ESPECIALLY BUSINESS SCHOOL), AND PHILADELPHIA (BICENTENNIAL SITES). HE WANTS SPEND TIME VISITING HISTORIC SITES AND GOVT CENTERS IN WASHINGTON, INCLUDING CONGRESS (WITH CALL ON CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, IF POSSIBLE). WHILE IN NY HE SHOULD VISIT BCIU.

5. AUBER WOULD LIKE MEETINGS WITH EXPORTERS GOVT ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLIES (PAPER PRODUCTS, OFFICE EQUIPMENT, STATIONARY, VEHICLES) AS HIS MINISTRY ALSO SERVES GSA FUNCTION. CONTACT WITH HIM COULD GENERATE MODEST US EXPORTS OF OFFICE ITEMS.

6. A FORMER CRICKET STAR IN THE GAMBIA, AUBER CONTINUES KEEN INTEREST IN SPORTS. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE US SOCCER MATCH, AND PERHAPS ALSO MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME. AUBER LIKES THEATER AND WOULD APPRECIATE TICKETS IN NY AND WASHINGTON (EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE FOR EVENING AT KENNEDY CENTER).

7. WHILE CPP DID NOT IMMEDIATELY ADDRESS MIN FINANCE AND TRADE, THIS MINISTRY IS KEY ELEMENT IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THE GAMBIA AUBER PLAYS MAJOR ROLE IN GAMBIAN ADMINISTRATION AND, AT AGE 40, HAS MANY YEARS OF TOP LEVEL SERVICE AHEAD OF HIM.

8. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS EXTRA BURDEN THIS REQUEST PLACES ON CU/AF, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION THIS NOMINATION.WYGANT

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